

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 5, 7-14, 19 and 25 are pending in this application. By this amendment, claims 11-14 and 25 are cancelled. Claims 5, 7, 10 and 19 are amended.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-4 (CANCELLED):

5 (CURRENTLY AMENDED): A communication apparatus capable of using a plurality of communication channels comprising:

a setting unit configured to set a communication scheme in which a user determines both whether or not [[a bulk]] to require communication is granted to a communication partner utilizing all of the plurality of communication channels of a communication partner in a sending communication and whether or not to grant a request for communication utilizing the plurality of communication channels from a communication partner in a receiving communication, independently; and

a communication unit configured to conduct the bulk communication and a non-bulk communication with a partner via a plurality of communication channels; and

a control unit configured to control the number of communication channels in the sending communication and the receiving communication separately in accordance with the communication scheme set by said setting unit enabling the user to control the bulk communication in the sending communication and the receiving communication independently.

6 (CANCELLED):

7 (CURRENTLY AMENDED): The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said communication [[unit]] apparatus can communicate with a plurality of communication partners, and said setting unit can set the number of channels used when a communication with another communication partner is to be started while communicating using the communication channels, the number of which is controlled by said control unit.

8 (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED): The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said setting unit sets whether or not a communication with another communication partner is granted.

9 (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED): The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said communication apparatus can connect a plurality of external communication apparatuses, and said setting unit can set whether or not a communication via the plurality of communication channels is granted in each of the plurality of external communication apparatuses.

10 (CURRENTLY AMENDED): The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said communication [[unit]] apparatus can communicate using a plurality of communication schemes, and

 said setting unit can set whether or not a communication via the plurality of communication channels is granted in each of the plurality of communication schemes.

11-18 (CANCELLED):

19 (CURRENTLY AMENDED): A method of controlling a communication apparatus capable of using a plurality of communication channels comprising:

a setting step of setting a communication scheme in which a user determines both whether or not a bulk to require communication is granted to a communication partner utilizing all of the plurality of communication channels of a communication partner in a sending communication and whether or not to grant a request for communication utilizing the plurality of communication channels from a communication partner in a receiving communication, independently; and

a communication step of conducting the bulk communication and a non-bulk communication with a partner via the plurality of communication channels; and

a control step of controlling the number of communication channels in the sending communication and the receiving communication separately in accordance with the communication scheme set in the setting step enabling the user to control the bulk communication in the sending communication and the receiving communication independently.

20-31 (CANCELLED):